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**Letter dated 17 April 2017 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to transmit herewith humanitarian and information bulletins from the Russian Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic for the period 11-17 April 2017 (see annex).

I should be grateful if this letter and its annex could be circulated as a Security Council document.

(*Signed*) P. **Iliichev**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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## Annex to the letter dated 17 April 2017 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

## Humanitarian bulletin of the Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic (11 April 2017)

### Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic by the Russian Federation

Over the past 24 hours, the Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides has carried out seven humanitarian operations in Aleppo governorate.

In Aleppo city, 6 tons of bottled drinking water and also 7.8 tons of food products (food packages, hot food and bread) were distributed to residents of Hamdaniyah-4, New Aleppo, Basil, Shaykh Najjar, Halidiyah, Shaykh Maqsud and Azizi districts and also to Afrin (Aleppo governorate).

Over the past 24 hours, 4,751 residents have received humanitarian assistance.

In total, 14.1 tons of humanitarian cargo have been distributed to the population.

### Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic by international organizations

Over the past 24 hours, the United Nations and partners continued to provide medical, psychological and legal assistance to the Syrian Arab Republic. In addition, work is continuing to restore infrastructure and provide temporary housing for persons in need.

## Information bulletin of the Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic (12 April 2017)

### Reconciliation of opposing sides

Over the past 24 hours, one ceasefire agreement has been signed with Khirbat al-Ward in Damascus governorate.

The number of populated areas that have joined the reconciliation process has increased to 1,453.

Negotiations on joining the ceasefire regime continued with armed opposition groups in Aleppo, Damascus, Hama, Homs and Qunaytirah governorates.

The number of armed groups that have announced their commitment to accepting and fulfilling the terms of the ceasefire of 27 February 2016 is unchanged — it is still 140.

The number of populated areas which Syrian government forces have liberated from armed groups of the international terrorist organization Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) since 1 January 2017 remains unchanged at 226.

Over the past 24 hours, government forces have gained control of 10.9 square kilometres of territory. A total of 3,867 square kilometres has been liberated.

### Observance of the ceasefire regime

At 0000 hours on 30 December 2016, a ceasefire came into force in accordance with the consolidated agreement on a comprehensive resolution of the Syrian crisis.

The number of Syrian opposition armed groups that have joined the ceasefire regime remains unchanged at 64.

Over the past 24 hours, the Russian representative office of the Russian and Turkish Joint Commission reviewing issues related to violations of the consolidated agreement has reported 12 violations in the following governorates: 5 in Damascus, 3 in Ladhiqiyah, 2 in Hama and 2 in Dar'a.

The Turkish representative office has reported 13 violations of the consolidated agreement in the following governorates: 7 in Aleppo, 2 in Dar'a, 2 in Hama, 1 in Damascus and 1 in Ladhiqiyah.

The Russian representative office has not confirmed any of the 13 violations during its investigations of the incidents.

## Humanitarian bulletin of the Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic (12 April 2017)

### Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic by the Russian Federation

Over the past 24 hours, the Russian Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides has carried out seven humanitarian operations: six in Aleppo governorate and one in Suwayda' governorate.

In Aleppo city, 3,000 portions of hot food and 1.2 tons of bread were delivered to residents of Qasilah, Sakhur-3 and Jandul and to schools in the Sukkari, Ashrafiyah and Firdaws districts.

A total of 350 food packages were delivered to residents of Salah in Suwayda' governorate.

Over the past 24 hours, 3,350 residents have received humanitarian assistance.

In total, 2.8 tons of humanitarian cargoes have been distributed to the population.

### Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic by international organizations

Russian aircraft parachuted 21 tons of humanitarian cargo (food products), received by the Syrian authorities through the United Nations, to the city of Dayr al-Zawr.

## Information bulletin of the Russian Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic (13 April 2017)

### Reconciliation of opposing sides

Over the past 24 hours, one ceasefire agreement has been signed with Shaykh Miskin in Dar'a governorate.

The number of populated areas that have joined the reconciliation process has increased to 1,454.

Negotiations on joining the ceasefire regime continued with armed opposition groups in Aleppo, Damascus, Hama, Homs and Qunaytirah governorates.

The number of armed groups that have announced their commitment to accepting and fulfilling the terms of the ceasefire of 27 February 2016 is unchanged — it is still 140.

The number of populated areas which Syrian government forces have liberated from armed groups of the international terrorist organization Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) since 1 January 2017 remains unchanged at 226.

Over the past 24 hours, government forces have gained control of 12 square kilometres of territory. A total area of 3,879 square kilometres has been liberated.

### Observance of the ceasefire regime

At 0000 hours on 30 December 2016, a ceasefire came into force in accordance with the consolidated agreement on a comprehensive resolution of the Syrian crisis.

The number of Syrian opposition armed groups that have joined the ceasefire regime is unchanged — it is 64.

Over the past 24 hours, the Russian representative office of the Russian and Turkish Joint Commission reviewing issues related to violations of the consolidated agreement has reported 14 violations in the following governorates: 8 in Damascus, 3 in Ladhiqiyah, 2 in Hama and 1 in Dar'a.

The Turkish representative office has reported 14 violations in the following governorates: 5 in Aleppo, 4 in Damascus, 2 in Hama, 1 in Dar'a, 1 in Idlib and 1 in Homs.

During its investigations of the incidents, the Russian representative office established that in two cases the Nusrah Front was fired upon; it has not confirmed any of the other violations.

## Humanitarian bulletin of the Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic (13 April 2017)

### Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic by the Russian Federation

Over the past 24 hours, the Russian Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides has carried out six humanitarian operations, during which 6.3 tons of bottled drinking water and food products were delivered to residents of Zahra', Bustan al-Qasr, Bab Qinasirin and Salihin districts, near the Hannanu area of Aleppo, and in Kudah in Aleppo governorate.

Over the past 24 hours, 1,978 residents have received humanitarian assistance.

### Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic by international organizations

Russian aircraft parachuted 20.3 tons of humanitarian cargo (food products), received by the Syrian authorities through the United Nations, to the city of Dayr al-Zawr.

## Information bulletin of the Russian Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic (14 April 2017)

### Reconciliation of opposing sides

Over the past 24 hours, nine ceasefire agreements have been signed with Husayniyah, Kafr al-Awamid, Ayn al-Fijah, Afrah, Suq Wadi Barada, Basimah, Kufayr al-Zayt, Haniyah and Dayr Muqrin in Damascus governorate.

The number of populated areas that have joined the reconciliation process has increased to 1,463.

Negotiations on joining the ceasefire regime continued with armed opposition groups in Aleppo, Damascus, Hama, Homs and Qunaytirah governorates.

The number of armed groups that have announced their commitment to accepting and fulfilling the terms of the ceasefire of 27 February 2016 is unchanged — it is still 140.

The number of populated areas which Syrian government forces have liberated from armed groups of the international terrorist organization Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) since 1 January 2017 is unchanged — it is still 226.

Over the past 24 hours, government forces have gained control of 10.5 square kilometres. A total area of 3,889.5 square kilometres has been liberated.

### Observance of the ceasefire regime

At 0000 hours on 30 December 2016, a ceasefire came into force in accordance with the consolidated agreement on a comprehensive resolution of the Syrian crisis.

The number of Syrian opposition armed groups that have joined the ceasefire regime is unchanged — it is still 64.

Over the past 24 hours, the Russian representative office of the Russian and Turkish Joint Commission reviewing issues related to violations of the consolidated agreement has reported 12 violations in the following governorates: 6 in Damascus, 3 in Ladhiqiyah, 2 in Hama and 1 in Dar'a.

The Turkish representative office has reported 7 violations of the consolidated agreement in the following governorates: 2 in Dar'a, 1 in Hama, 1 in Damascus, 1 in Aleppo, 1 in Homs and 1 in Idlib.

The Russian representative office has not confirmed any of the 7 violations during its investigations of the incidents.

## Humanitarian bulletin of the Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic (14 April 2017)

### Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic by the Russian Federation

Over the past 24 hours, the Russian Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides has carried out eight humanitarian operations: six in Aleppo governorate, one in Damascus governorate and one in Ladhiqiyah governorate.

In Aleppo city, 2.5 tons of hot food portions and 150 food packages were delivered to residents of Hamdaniyah-3, Bab-Nasrin, Jazmati, Shahba' al-Qadimah, Sheykh Said and New Aleppo.

A total of 2.3 tons of food products (700 food packages) and office supplies, as well as medical equipment, were delivered to residents of Dimas, in Damascus governorate, and Jablah, in Ladhiqiyah governorate.

Over the past 24 hours, 3,350 residents have received humanitarian assistance.

In total, 4.5 tons of humanitarian cargo have been distributed to the population.

### Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic by international organizations

Russian aircraft parachuted 19.4 tons of humanitarian cargo (food products), received by the Syrian authorities through the United Nations, to the town of Dayr al-Zawr.

## Information bulletin of the Russian Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic (15 April 2017)

### Reconciliation of opposing sides

No ceasefire agreements have been signed over the past 24 hours.

The number of populated areas that have joined the reconciliation process is unchanged — it is still 1,463.

Negotiations on joining the ceasefire regime continued with armed opposition groups in Aleppo, Damascus, Hama, Homs and Qunaytirah governorates.

The number of armed groups that have announced their commitment to accepting and fulfilling the terms of the ceasefire of 27 February 2016 is unchanged — it is still 140.

The number of populated areas which Syrian government forces have liberated from armed groups of the international terrorist organization Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) since 1 January 2017 is unchanged — it is still 226.

Over the past 24 hours, government forces have gained control of 33.5 square kilometres of territory. A total area of 3,923 square kilometres has been liberated.

### Observance of the ceasefire regime

At 0000 hours on 30 December 2016, a ceasefire came into force in accordance with the consolidated agreement on a comprehensive resolution of the Syrian crisis.

The number of Syrian opposition armed groups that have joined the ceasefire regime is unchanged — it is still 64.

Over the past 24 hours, the Russian representative office of the Russian and Turkish Joint Commission reviewing issues related to violations of the consolidated agreement has reported 14 violations in the following governorates: 8 in Damascus, 3 in Hama, 2 in Ladhiqiyah and 1 in Dar'a.

The Turkish representative office has reported 12 violations of the consolidated agreement in the following governorates: 6 in Damascus, 2 in Aleppo, 2 in Hama, 1 in Idlib and 1 in Dar'a.

During its investigations of the incidents, the Russian representative office confirmed 2 ceasefire violations, but has not confirmed any of the other 10 violations.

## Information bulletin of the Russian Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic (16 April 2017)

### Reconciliation of opposing sides

Over the past 24 hours, one ceasefire agreement has been signed with Khirbat al-Shiyab in Damascus governorate.

The number of populated areas that have joined the reconciliation process has increased to 1,464.

Negotiations on joining the ceasefire regime continued with armed opposition groups in Aleppo, Damascus, Hama, Homs and Qunaytirah governorates.

The number of armed groups that have announced their commitment to accepting and fulfilling the terms of the ceasefire of 27 February 2016 is unchanged — it is still 140.

The number of populated areas which Syrian government forces have liberated from armed groups of the international terrorist organization Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) since 1 January 2017 is unchanged — it is still 226.

Over the past 24 hours, government forces have gained control of 24 square kilometres of territory. A total area of 3,947 square kilometres has been liberated.

### Observance of the ceasefire regime

At 0000 hours on 30 December 2016, a ceasefire came into force in accordance with the consolidated agreement on a comprehensive resolution of the Syrian crisis.

The number of Syrian opposition armed groups that have joined the ceasefire regime is unchanged — it is still 64.

Over the past 24 hours, the Russian representative office of the Russian and Turkish Joint Commission reviewing issues related to violations of the consolidated agreement has reported 14 violations in the following governorates: 7 in Damascus, 4 in Hama, 2 in Ladhiqiyah and 1 in Dar'a.

The Turkish representative office has reported 11 violations of the consolidated agreement in the following governorates: 3 in Aleppo, 2 in Damascus, 2 in Idlib, 2 in Homs, 1 in Hama and 1 in Dar'a.

During its investigations of the incidents, the Russian representative office confirmed 2 ceasefire violations, but it has not confirmed any of the other 9 violations.

## Humanitarian bulletin of the Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic (16 April 2017)

### Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic by the Russian Federation

Over the past 24 hours, the Russian Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides has carried out seven humanitarian operations: six in Aleppo governorate and one in Ladhiqiyah governorate.

In Aleppo city, 3,000 portions of hot food and 1.8 tons of bread were delivered to residents of Salah al-Din, Old Aleppo, Bala Tahtani, Shahba' al-Qadimah, Turab al-Hallak and Karm al-Da'da'.

A total of 1.2 tons of food products were delivered to Jiftlik in Ladhiqiyah governorate.

Over the past 24 hours, 3,373 residents have received humanitarian assistance.

In total, 3.6 tons of humanitarian cargo have been distributed to the population.

### Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic by international organizations

Over the past 24 hours, the United Nations and partners continued to provide medical, psychological and legal assistance to the Syrian Arab Republic. In addition, work is continuing to restore infrastructure and provide temporary housing for those in need.

## Information bulletin of the Russian Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic (17 April 2017)

### Reconciliation of opposing sides

No ceasefire agreements were signed over the past 24 hours.

The number of populated areas that have joined the reconciliation process is unchanged — it is still 1,464.

Negotiations on joining the ceasefire regime continued with armed opposition groups in Aleppo, Damascus, Hama, Homs and Qunaytirah governorates.

The number of armed groups that have announced their commitment to accepting and fulfilling the terms of the ceasefire of 27 February 2016 is unchanged — it is still 140.

The number of populated areas which Syrian government forces have liberated from armed groups of the international terrorist organization Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) since 1 January 2017 is unchanged — it is still 226.

Over the past 24 hours, government forces have gained control of 2 square kilometres of territory. A total area of 3,949 square kilometres has been liberated.

### Observance of the ceasefire regime

At 0000 hours on 30 December 2016, a ceasefire came into force in accordance with the consolidated agreement on a comprehensive resolution of the Syrian crisis.

The number of Syrian opposition armed groups that have joined the ceasefire regime is unchanged — it is still 64.

Over the past 24 hours, the Russian representative office of the Russian and Turkish Joint Commission reviewing issues related to violations of the consolidated agreement has reported 16 violations in the following governorates: 8 in Damascus, 4 in Hama, 3 in Ladhiqiyah and 1 in Dar'a.

The Turkish representative office has reported 8 violations of the consolidated agreement in the following governorates: 5 in Idlib, 2 in Damascus and 1 in Dar'a.

The Russian representative office has not confirmed any of the 8 violations during its investigations of the incidents.

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**Security Council**
**Seventy-second year**

## Letter dated 17 April 2017 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of decree No. 1290-7 GD of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, dated 7 April 2017, concerning a statement by the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation addressed to the parliaments of the world, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in connection with the missile strike by the United States of America against a military airfield in the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic on 7 April 2017 and the text of the statement by the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation addressed to the parliaments of the world, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in connection with the missile strike by the United States of America against a military airfield in the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic on 7 April 2017 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the texts of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council and of the General Assembly, under agenda item 31.

(*Signed*) P. **Iliichev**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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**Annex to the letter dated 17 April 2017 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

# Decree of the State Duma concerning a statement by the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation addressed to the parliaments of the world, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in connection with the missile strike by the United States of America against a military airfield in the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic on 7 April 2017

The State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation hereby decides:

1. To adopt the statement by the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation addressed to the parliaments of the world, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in connection with the missile strike by the United States of America against a military airfield in the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic on 7 April 2017 (see enclosure).

2. To transmit the present decree and the statement to the President of the Russian Federation, Mr. V.V. Putin, the Government of the Russian Federation, the Civic Chamber of the Russian Federation, the United Nations, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the European Parliament, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, the parliaments of European States and the Congress of the United States of America.

3. To transmit the present decree and the statement to the Parliamentary Gazette for official publication.

4. This decree shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

V. V. **Volodin**
Chairman of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly
of the Russian Federation

Moscow, 7 April 2017

## Enclosure

## Statement by the State Duma addressed to the parliaments of the world, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe in connection with the missile strike by the United States of America against a military airfield in the territory of the Syrian Arab Republic on 7 April 2017

The deputies of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation are outraged at the gross violation by the United States of America of the universally recognized principles of international law: refraining from the threat or use of force, respect for human rights, the sovereignty of States, and non-interference in the internal affairs of States — in carrying out missile strikes against the Sha'irat military airfield and government troops of the Syrian Arab Republic on 7 April 2017, causing loss of life.

Washington used the death of residents of Idlib governorate from chemical weapons of unknown origin as an artificial pretext for committing an act of armed aggression against a sovereign State. Without a preliminary investigation, and after rejecting the proposal of the Russian Federation regarding the need for a careful review of all the circumstances of the tragedy, the United States of America, in pursuit of its geopolitical ambitions of being a world policeman, once again demonstrated its commitment to strong-armed tactics aimed at overthrowing President Assad.

The Inter-Parliamentary Union had only just adopted a resolution, on 5 April 2017, entitled "The role of parliament in respecting the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States", in which it called for a strengthening of the role of the legislative and representative bodies of States Members of the United Nations in ensuring strict observance of human rights, above all the right to life, and adherence to the rule of law. The American air force carried out strikes which resulted in loss of life, thereby grossly ignoring the call of the parliaments of the 143 States which are members of this long-established international parliamentary organization.

It cannot be ruled out that the appalling chemical attack in Idlib governorate was a deliberate provocation by the forces of war which would like to revert to the policy of the Obama administration of forced overthrow of President Assad. All this contradicts the statements made earlier by the new American administration regarding the need to combat international terrorism alongside the Russian Federation.

Washington's conduct also demonstrates a desire to distract the attention of the international community from the humanitarian disaster in the city of Mosul, which arose as a result of the actions of the United States of America. This amounts to yet another case of double standards in American policy.

All this is an ominous reminder of the events of 2003, when the United States of America and some of its allies invaded Iraq without the approval of the United Nations Security Council, on the pretext of unproved accusations involving weapons of mass destruction.

It is also deeply disturbing that, in official communications of the American authorities, there is not a word about the Nusrah Front terrorists, which clearly demonstrates Washington's desire to use that terrorist organization, affiliated with Al-Qaida, to overthrow the legitimately elected authority in Syria. Those who took

the decision to carry out strikes against the Sha'irat base were actually serving the interests of the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) by according a reprieve to that organization which is banned in the Russian Federation and an opportunity to rebuild its forces, which had been thoroughly degraded as a result of the successful actions of the government forces of the Syrian Arab Republic.

There can be no doubt that these actions by the United States of America are damaging the already fragile security architecture in Europe, the stability of which has been significantly weakened by the migration crisis caused by interference in the internal affairs of sovereign States in the Middle East and North Africa.

The deputies of the State Duma call upon the parliaments of the world, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to condemn the aggressive actions of the United States of America, which violate the basic principles of international law and are undermining cooperation among States of the world in combating terrorism. We are convinced that this main threat of the twenty-first century can be defeated only by building an effective system of collective international security which will be able to ensure tranquillity and safe skies for all sovereign States.

V. V. **Volodin**
Chairman of the State Duma of the Federal Assembly
of the Russian Federation

Moscow, 7 April 2017